



Attorney General

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Robert R. Corbin

July 15, 1988

The Honorable Joe Albo Jr.
Gila County Attorney
1400 E. Ash Street
Globe, Arizona 85501

Re: 188-079 (R88-060)

Dear Mr. Albo:

We have reviewed your May, 1988 opinion concerning practices of a public high school in accepting credits earned at a local private high school. We concur with your conclusion that if a student demonstrates a passing knowledge of a subject tested by the nationally standardized norm-referenced achievement test ("achievement test"), the child should receive credit for that subject.

We decline to review your conclusion that the public high school would not be able to grant credit for subjects taught at the private high school when the public high school does not teach the same or equivalent subjects.

The following is a revision of your conclusion that for subjects not tested by the achievement test, but which the student claims to have taken, the district board may require the student to re-take the subjects.

We find no Arizona statute or rule which governs the transfer of credits from private to public schools. In 1980, however, the Attorney General examined the question of credit transfers from private to public schools and concluded:

[D]istrict boards should employ a reasonable standard in determining whether to give credit for certain classes taken at private schools. The exercise of this discretion would necessarily involve appraisal of the course content of the classes, the quality of teaching, etc.

Ariz.Atty.Gen.Op. 180-142.

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Therefore, for subjects not tested by the achievement tests, the local boards should employ a reasonable basis to determine whether credit should be given, and this necessarily includes appraisal of the course content and the quality of teaching.

Sincerely,



BOB CORBIN
Attorney General

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